

# **“NEIGHBORHOODS THAT WORK”**

**Award Recipients, 2001**

## **Ward 3 – Joy Defenbaugh**

### **Category 1: Historic Wood Streets Association (Chair: David Vangsness)**

Historic Wood Streets Neighborhood Association formed a number of years ago in large part to tackle issues associated with RCC student parking and expansion. By coming together as a group, HWSA has successfully established a working relationship with RCC administration to collaborate in problem-solving. The group carefully keeps watch for issues affecting the neighborhood and has the organizational structure in place to respond. The HWSNA is open to all residents of the Woods Streets. They are united in their love of Riverside, their neighborhood, their historic homes, and an old-fashioned sense of community."

### **Category 2: Cape Cod/Riviera Arms Apartments Neighborhood Watch (Contact: William Turpin, Manager)**

The Cape Cod and Riviera Arms Apartments, managed by Mr. William Turpin, are comprised of 72 units. The residents of both complexes are actively involved in a Neighborhood Watch group that meets monthly. A newsletter is produced and distributed monthly to keep neighbors informed. There is a real focus on the kids at the apartment evidenced by a Saturday kids' club where children do arts and crafts and residents volunteer their time and talent to teach the kids and share in the fun. This year, as part of National Night Out, the Cape Cod/Riviera Arms Apartments held a fantastic party in their parking lot. There was a bouncer for the kids, the fire department brought a fire truck, and pony rides. Everyone came out to share in the fun and celebrate their unity against crime. Later that evening, the group held a "march against crime" around the apartments and up Panorama Drive.

This Neighborhood Watch group is a model for other apartment complexes and shows that a "neighborhood" can be created wherever there are people who care.

### **Category 3: Beatty Drive Neighbors between Palm and Arch Way (Contact: Dwight Tate)**

The Beatty Drive Neighbors between Palm and Arch Way began organizing neighborhood activities as a whole block about 10 years ago through the energy and enthusiasm of 3 ladies, Tami Bakewell, Susan Sampson, and Audrey Boyer. Neighborhood Activities include an annual block party including a chili cook-off, a bake-off and games. The neighborhood also holds an annual Christmas food and gift drive for an underprivileged family through the Salvation Army. At Christmas they decorate the street light lampposts and light luminarias on Christmas Eve. An annual flag display takes place on July 4<sup>th</sup> with over 200 flags lining lawns down the street. On Halloween there is a party for the youngest children. Families babysit and watch out for each others' children, and neighbors look in on the older residents, some of whom have lived there for 45 to 50 years. They have established a permanent flag display to memorialize those lost on Sept. 11. Faces and cars are familiar to everyone and everyone waves to each other when walking or driving by. These neighbors have turned their neighborhood into a wonderful place to call home.